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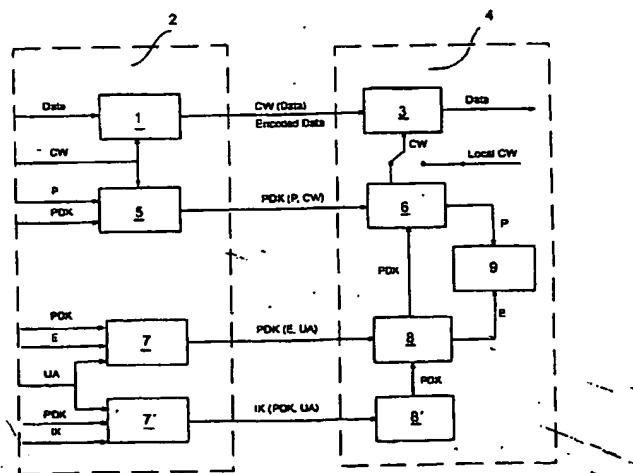
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(54) Title: ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD FOR SUBSCRIPTION TO A CELL BROADCAST SERVICE



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(57) Abstract: Arrangement and method for subscription to a cell broadcast service in a cellular radio communication system including a fixed network (2) with base stations, arranged to communicate with mobile stations (4) within cells. Said base stations are also arranged to transmit data on a broadcast carrier within a cell, for all mobile stations in said cell to receive. An encoding device (1) is adapted to encoding in the fixed network of subscriber specific data by a symmetric key to a code (CW), and a data transmission device is adapted to transmission of the encoded subscriber specific data from the fixed network on a data channel on a cell broadcast carrier. Decoding device (3), adapted to decoding of said encoded subscriber specific data by said symmetric key to a code in a mobile station (4) belonging to a subscriber to a broadcast service.

ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD FOR SUBSCRIPTION TO A CELL BROADCAST SERVICE

Field of the invention

5 The present invention relates to an arrangement and a method to address data which are transmitted on a carrier frequency which is broadcast, a so called broadcast carrier, to users within specific groups or regions. More exactly is related to an arrangement and a method at a
10 wireless telecommunication and data communication system which makes it possible to charge for and offer closed user groups services which are based on GSMS Cell Broadcast carrier service.

15 Technical background

Wireless telecommunication and data communication systems which utilize radio as transmission medium have as a rule a cellular structure. In such cellular radio communication systems a fixed network is arranged with a plurality of transmitter and receiver stations, so called base stations, and exchanges, control units and operator stations arranged for operation of the system. The network is fixed in the sense that the included units are stationary, and that they as a rule are connected to each other by cable/wire. The base stations are the end terminals of the fixed network, which are arranged for communication via radio with mobile stations within the coverage areas of the base stations. The area within which a base station is arranged to provide coverage for radio communication with mobile stations is called cell, and the base stations are carefully placed/located in the terrain so that their respective cells overlap each other. The size of the cells is depending on the load of available radio spectrum, since the bandwidth is limited. For that reason the size of the cell is in principle decided by call frequency per area unit, and can vary from some hundred

meters in diameter in urban environment, to several kilometers in rural districts.

There are several different technologies for division of communication channels, for use at communication between 5 base station and mobile station. The channels can for instance be frequency divided according to FDMA (Frequency Division Multiple Access), time divided according to TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access), or represented by codes according to CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access).

10 GSM (Global System for Mobile communication) is a radio communication system where channels preferably are divided according to TDMA, that is, different users can utilize the same carrier frequency at the same time by division of the radio resource in time slots. When a call 15 is established in GSM, the involved mobile station and the base station in the cell where the mobile station is, first communicate over a carrier frequency for control channels. This carrier frequency is common to all mobile stations in the cell of current interest, and includes a plurality of 20 different channels which the network for instance uses for transmission of broadcast information to its subscribers, and for paging of subscribers in case of incoming calls to them. When the fixed network has found the position of and established contact with the mobile station of current 25 interest, the base station of current interest and the mobile station are allocated a communication channel, or, more exactly, two; one for downlink from base station to mobile station, and one for uplink in opposite direction. The communication, that is the conversation itself, is 30 after that executed on the dedicated traffic channel, which is not shared by any other users within an area which is sufficiently large to guarantee that the communication of different users with the fixed network does not interfere on the radio channel.

35 In GSM the common carrier with continuous and even signal strength is used by the base stations, and is for

that reason also utilized for signal strength measuring of mobile stations with the aim to find suitable candidates for handover, that is, transfer of communication between base stations. The common carrier also can include channels intended for directed transmission of text messages, so called SMS (Short Message Service). As the name implies, SMS is a service to transmit short text messages direct to a GSM mobile telephone. This can be done without any extra equipment; a modern mobile telephone is all that is needed.

There is space for maximally 160 characters or 140 byte in such a message. One differentiates between SMS-MT (mobile terminated) which is transmitted to a mobile telephone, and SMS-MO (mobile originated) which is transmitted from the telephone. Practically all GSM-telephones can receive SMS.

Transmit SMS can practically almost all new GSM-telephones. What is needed is that one has programmed in the telephone number of/to the operator's message center (SMSC, SMS Center). If the telephone is switched off, the message can of course not be delivered. Then the message is held in the system for a few days, different in different networks, and is transmitted when the telephone later is switched on. The one who transmits the message actually has no confirmation of that the message has been received. One then always pays for the message irrespective of if it has reached its destination or not.

Some operators offer to their customers to derive information to the own GSM-telephone by means of SMS. The subscriber then transmits a specific message to one in advance determined number. He/she then will, after a short while, have an SMS in return which contains the requested information. It can for instance be stock exchange quotations, weather forecasts, train or flight schedules, rates of exchange, sports news, and a lot of other things.

Another procedure to transmit text messages to mobile stations is to utilize a so called Cell Broadcast service. The idea of Cell Broadcast is that the operator transmits

an SMS text message broadcast to all mobiles which are in the same area, one or more cells, and consequently not to a specific receiver as with a normal text message. The messages can for instance contain a local weather forecast, 5 road report, or advertisement for the local restaurant. By a cell-info function arranged in the mobile station, the subscriber then can select to receive Cell Broadcast- messages or not. In more modern mobiles it is also possible to limit the information that shall be received by 10 selecting among different classes of information, for instance only road reports and no advertisement. Cell Broadcast makes transmission of up to 93 characters possible, and operates in "background mode", that is, it is only received by mobile stations in idle mode. A new 15 message can be transmitted every two seconds.

There is today no way to charge the mobile telephone subscribers for the utilization of services which are based on GMS's Cell Broadcast carrier service. Nor does the possibility exist to offer to closed user groups the, from 20 a transmission point of view, resource saving broadcast service. As a consequence of this it is the operator or the service provider who has to bear the expenses of operating the service referred to and to transmit/transfer the information to the user. For new possible services this 25 fact may be a problem, since many companies or organizations do not want to take these costs without having something back in form of earnings from the users. Even if it with existing technology is possible to subscribers to automatically sort out among incoming cell 30 broadcast messages by means of above mentioned cell-info functionality, and at that possible for the operator to reach the subscribers who themselves select to receive the information, it is not possible for the operator to transmit data by cell broadcast directed to selected 35 subscribers and at the same time prevent other subscribers from acquainting themselves with the data.

It consequently is an aim of the present invention to provide an arrangement and a method for subscription to Cell Broadcast services in a radio communication system. One aspect of this aim is to solve above mentioned problem 5 with known technology.

Summary of the invention

The present invention accordingly intends to provide an arrangement for subscription to a broadcast service in a 10 cellular radio communication system, which system includes a fixed network with base stations. Said base stations are each arranged to transmit data on a broadcast carrier within a cell for all mobile stations in said cell to receive. The arrangement is characterized in that coding 15 device is arranged in the fixed network, adapted to encoding of subscriber specific data by a key to a code. Data transmission device is arranged in the fixed network, adapted to broadcast transmission of subscriber specific data which have been encoded by said coding device, on one 20 for Cell Broadcast service arranged data channel on said broadcast carrier. Mobile stations which have entitlement/authority to receive the subscriber specific data, that is mobile stations belonging to subscribers of the cell broadcast service, include decoding device/ 25 devices. This decoding device is adapted to decoding of said encoded subscriber specific data by said key to a code, which is symmetric with the key to a code which has been used for the encoding of the data in the fixed network.

30 The invention also relates to a method for subscription to a broadcast service in a cellular radio communication system as above. The method is characterized in that subscriber specific data are encoded in the fixed network by a key to a code. The encoded subscriber specific 35 data are after that transmitted broadcast on one for Cell Broadcast service arranged data channel on said broadcast

carrier. The transmitted encoded subscriber specific data can be received by all subscribers in the cells where the data are transmitted, but decoded only in one subscriber's mobile station by a key to a code which is symmetric with 5 the key to a code which was used for the encoding in the fixed network.

Brief description of the drawings

10 The invention is described in detail below with reference to the only figure, at which

Figure 1 schematically shows the data flow between the fixed network and a mobile station in a preferred embodiment of the invention.

15 Detailed description of preferred embodiments

16 The invention is based on that one codes information which belongs to services to which one subscribes, and pays for, or which only certain groups shall have possibility to listen to. The users who are authorized to receive and 20 decode this information have keys and belonging algorithm to be able to decode the information. The algorithm for decoding is either in the mobile telephone itself, that is the mobile station, in the SIM-card, or in a terminal which can be connected to the mobile telephone.

25 Because the invention is based on GSM Cell Broadcast carrier service, or just any other mobile telephone standard which can manage broadcast information to mobile telephones, information of current interest can be limited to a geographical area. This can be selected quite freely 30 and can be varied from a single cell up to an operator's whole network (all cells). It consequently will be possible to direct one's broadcast information to a specific geographical area, where the information is relevant and of current interest, at the same time as one directs the 35 information only to specific receivers in this geographical area.

The invention also makes it possible to buy services during a limited period of time, for instance per day, that is when one actually has a need for just that service. Ordering for the service then can be done by transmitting a 5 SMS-message to the server which manages the service. The server registers the A-number, which is used at debiting, and transmits entitlement information in return.

Updating of keys, at long-term subscriptions to services can be done via GSM's radio interface, SMS or Cell 10 Broadcast, from the operator to the users in a way similar to that which is used at satellite-TV.

The choice of coding technology is of secondary importance to the system. For instance can symmetric keys be used. They provide lower performance demands at the 15 decoding. The management of keys will be simple because all receivers who have ordered a specific service will use the same key. The users, however, do not have possibility to read their key in plain text, and by that cannot spread it to others. It should be emphasized that only certain types 20 of Cell Broadcast messages, for instance pay and subscription services, and closed user groups, are encoded. Other open Cell Broadcast messages are transmitted not coded.

An almost infinite number of unique user groups can be 25 created. Each member in a user group will have the same symmetric key. Each user group can in this way only read messages directed to the group. An application in MS checks if MS has succeeded in decoding the messages. This can be realized by a so called Message Authentication Code (MAC) 30 being transmitted together with the message. MS then tries, after decoding, to calculate MAC for the message and compares this with the in the message included MAC. If these correspond with each other, the decoding has been successful and the message is directed to the group to 35 which I belong. Otherwise MS rejects the message.

One example of coding technology and managing of encryption keys according to the present invention is described in Figure 1. Other variants are of course possible, and it is not the coding technology as such that 5 is decisive of the patent, but the principle to code individual channels.

Some terms which are relevant to the in the figure described embodiment are:

10 Data Payload information directed to user, subscriber.

15 CW Control Word. Key (symmetric) used for encoding and decoding data.

20 ECM Entitlement Control Message. Entitlement information for a service. Can for instance be a new CW.

25 EMM Entitlement Management Message. Messages which are used to update or load down subscriber information or keys which concern specific users (individual or groups).

30 PDK Service Management Key. Owned by a content provider and is associated to a specific service and is used to encrypt transmission of subscriber information (E) or keys for the service (CW).

35 IK Issuer Key. Key at the highest level. Owned by the network operator (Telia) and is used to load down new keys for a new service (content provider) via the radio interface. Can also be used to delete keys for a service.

UA Address. Address to a specific user or to a group of users.

P Information about how CW shall be used.

5 E Entitlement information for a specific service and a specific user or group of users.

10 Encoding in an encoder 1 in the fixed network 2, and decoding, in a decoder 3 in a subscriber's mobile station 4, of the payload information (data) is done by means of CW, Control Word. Change of CW can be made by the content provider for the service of current interest by a new CW being transmitted on the ECM-channel, encrypted by an ECM 15 encryption device 5 with PDK (Service Management Key). ECM is the channel for "Entitlement Control Messages". In addition to new CW-keys here information, P, regarding the use of CW can be transmitted. Messages on ECM are directed to all subscribers to the service, and are decrypted by an 20 ECM decryption device 6 in respective mobile station 4.

The EMM-channel (Entitlement Management Messages) can be used to change PDK for a certain service, or load down new keys for a new service. The systems manages parallel keys and Control Words for different services. The channel 25 is also used to load down entitlement information (E, Customer Entitlement) for a subscriber or a group of subscribers. Example of such information is the time of validity for a subscription. Messages on the channel are encrypted by EMM-encryption device 7,7', different or the same for E and PDK, and are directed to a specific user or group of users by means of the address UA. EMM decryption 30 device 8,8', different or the same for E and PDK, are arranged in the mobile station 4 for decryption of E respective PDK.

35 The arrangement for subscription to a broadcast service according to the present invention consequently

includes encoding device 1 adapted to encoding in the fixed network 2 of subscriber specific data by a symmetric key to a code CW, data transmission device adapted to transmission of encoded subscriber specific data from the fixed network 5 on a data channel on a cell broadcast carrier, and decoding device 3, adapted to decoding of encoded subscriber specific data by said symmetric key to a code in a mobile station 4 belonging to a subscriber to a broadcast service. In one preferred embodiment of the invention, said data 10 transmission device is adapted to transmission of encoded subscriber specific data in advance determined cells, depending on said subscription to the broadcast service.

Preferably the arrangement includes first encryption device 5 adapted to encryption of keys to codes by a first 15 encryption key PDK in the fixed network, first transmission device for control data, adapted to transmission of encrypted keys (to codes) from the fixed network on a first control data channel ECM on said broadcast carrier, and first decryption device 6 adapted to decryption of 20 encrypted keys in the subscriber's mobile station. Said first encryption device is preferably adapted to encryption of information P about how said symmetric key shall be used, and that said first transmission device for control data is preferably adapted to transmission of the encrypted 25 information about how said symmetric key (to a code) shall be used on the first control data channel.

Further, the arrangement preferably includes a second encryption device 7 adapted to encryption by the first encryption key of entitlement information E in the fixed 30 network, second transmission device for control data, adapted to transmission of encrypted entitlement information from the fixed network on a second control data channel on said broadcast carrier, and second decryption device 8 adapted to decryption of encrypted entitlement 35 information in the subscriber's mobile station. In one embodiment is further included third encryption device 7',

adapted to encryption of said first encryption key PDK by a second encryption key IK, third transmission device for control data, adapted to transmission of encrypted first encryption key from the fixed network on a third control 5 data channel on said broadcast carrier, and third decryption device 8', adapted to decryption of said first encrypted encryption key in the subscriber's mobile station. Said second and third transmission devices are preferably arranged to transmit address information about 10 mobile stations of receiving subscribers.

An information storing device 9 is preferably arranged in the subscriber's mobile station, adapted to storing of said information about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used, and to said entitlement information. Further 15 is preferably included a device for storing of key to a code (not shown), arranged in the subscriber's mobile station, adapted to storing of said key, and an encryption key storing device (not shown), arranged in the subscriber's mobile station, adapted to storing of said 20 first encryption key.

The method for subscription to a broadcast service according to the present invention includes the steps to encode subscriber specific data in the fixed network by a symmetric key to a code; transmit the encoded subscriber 25 specific data on a data channel on said broadcast carrier; and to decode said encoded subscriber specific data in a subscriber's mobile station by said symmetric key to a code. Further is preferably included the step to transmit said encoded subscriber specific data in advance 30 determined cells depending on said subscription to the broadcast service.

In one practicing of the method according to the invention are included the steps to encrypt keys to codes by a first encryption key in the fixed network; transmit 35 encrypted keys to codes from the fixed network on a first control data channel on said broadcast carrier; and to

decrypt encrypted keys to codes in the subscriber's mobile station.

Further are preferably included the steps encrypt information about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used; transmit said encrypted information about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used on said first control data channel; encrypt entitlement information by the first encryption key in the fixed network; transmit encrypted entitlement information from the fixed network on a second control data channel on said broadcast carrier; and to decrypt said encrypted entitlement information in the subscriber's mobile station.

In one practicing are included the steps to encrypt said first encryption key by a second encryption key; transmit said encrypted first encryption key from the fixed network on a third control data channel on said broadcast carrier; and to decrypt said first encrypted encryption key in the subscriber's mobile station. Preferably are also included the steps to transmit from the fixed network address information about mobile stations of receiving subscribers; store said information about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used, and said entitlement information in the subscriber's mobile station; store said key to a code in the subscriber's mobile station; and to store said first encryption key in the subscriber's mobile station.

The invention consequently describes a general method to code information which is transmitted on GSM Cell Broadcast carrier service and which, in addition, can be directed to geographical area which can be selected.

Examples of situations when the arrangement and the method according to the present invention can be utilized are:

- A service provider can charge customers to whom one for instance distributes road and traffic information. The information can be directed to those road-users who are on

a specific section of a road. Other road-users need not be troubled.

5 - Order for service during a limited period of time when the service is of interest, for instance tourist information in Stockholm during a week-end's stay. The service can for instance be included in the "Stockholm Card", by the A-number being registered when the card is bought.

10 - Police or emergency service can transmit confidential information to their units without the public having possibility to acquaint themselves with the information. The information can be directed to the units or persons who are in specific geographical areas, for instance a specific city (town) district. Other units need 15 not be bothered.

15 - When one wants to offer for instance to a company an own broadcast service for their employees. Each company in a community can be offered to subscribe to an own user group.

20 By the invention it is possible to very fast, and at the same time with sparing of resources and with encoding possibility, transmit information to a lot of users, in principle an unlimited number. It will, in addition, be possible to charge for the information by allowing the 25 users to subscribe to the service. In addition to this, the information can be directed to the geographical areas where it is relevant, by only being transmitted on the cells in the mobile telephone system which cover the geographical area of current interest. This results in a flexibility and 30 variability which is unique.

The invention is only limited by the enclosed patent claims.

PATENT CLAIMS

1. Arrangement for subscription to a broadcast service in a cellular radio communication system, which system includes a fixed network (2) with base stations, where a base station is arranged to transmit data on a broadcast carrier within a cell, for all mobile stations (4) in said cell to receive, characterized in - encoding device (1) adapted to encoding in the fixed network of subscriber specific data by a symmetric key to a code (CW); - data transmission device adapted to transmission of encoded subscriber specific data from the fixed network on a data channel on said broadcast carrier; - decoding device (3) adapted to decoding of encoded subscriber specific data by said symmetric key to a code in a mobile station belonging to a subscriber to said broadcast service.
2. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 1, where said data transmission device is adapted to transmission of encoded subscriber specific data in, in advance determined, cells depending on said subscription to the broadcast service.
3. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 1 or 2, characterized in - first encryption device (5) adapted to encryption of keys to codes by a first encryption key (PDK) in the fixed network; - first transmission device for control data, adapted to transmission of encrypted keys to codes from the fixed network on a first control data channel on said broadcast carrier; - first decryption device (6) adapted to decryption of encrypted keys to codes in the subscriber's mobile station.

4. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 3,
characterized in that said first encryption
device is adapted to encryption of information (P) about
how said symmetric key to a code shall be used, and that
5 said first transmission device for control data is adapted
to transmission of the encrypted information about how said
symmetric key to a code shall be used on the first control
data channel.

10 5. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 3 or 4,
characterized in
- second encryption device (7) adapted to encryption by the
first encryption key of entitlement information (E) in the
fixed network;

15 - second transmission device for control data, adapted to
transmission of encrypted entitlement information from the
fixed network on a second control data channel on said
broadcast carrier;

20 - second decryption device (8), adapted to decryption of
encrypted entitlement information in the subscriber's
mobile station.

25 6. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 5,
characterized in
- third encryption device (7'), adapted to encryption of
said first encryption key by a second encryption key (IK);

30 - third transmission device for control data, adapted to
transmission of encrypted first encryption key from the
fixed network on a third control data channel on said
broadcast carrier;

35 - third decryption device (8'), adapted to decryption of
said first encrypted encryption key in the subscriber's
mobile station.

35 7. Arrangement as claimed in patent claims 5 and 6,

characterized in that said second and third transmission devices are arranged to transmit address information (UA) about the mobile stations of receiving subscribers.

5

8. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 6 or 7, characterized in an information storing device (9) arranged in the subscriber's mobile station, adapted to storing of said information about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used, and to said entitlement information.

10 9. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 8, characterized in a storing device for key to a code, arranged in the subscriber's mobile station, adapted 15 to storing of said key to a code.

10. Arrangement as claimed in patent claim 9, characterized in an encryption key storing device, arranged in the subscriber's mobile station, 20 adapted to storing of said first encryption key.

25

11. Method for subscription to a broadcast service in a cellular radio communication system, in which system a fixed network (2) includes base stations, and where a base station transmits data on a broadcast carrier within a cell, which data are received by all mobile stations (4) in said cell, characterized in, to:

30

- encode (1) subscriber specific data in the fixed network by a symmetric key to a code (CW);
- transmit the encoded subscriber specific data on a data channel on said broadcast carrier;
- decode (3) said encoded subscriber specific data in a subscriber's mobile station by said symmetric key to a code.

35

12. Method as claimed in patent claim 11,

characterized in, to:

- transmit said encoded subscriber specific data in in advance determined cells depending on said subscription to the broadcast service.

5

13. Method as claimed in patent claim 11 or 12,

characterized in, to:

- encrypt (ECM) keys to codes by a first encryption key (PDK) in the fixed network;

10 - transmit encrypted keys to codes from the fixed network on a first control data channel on said broadcast carrier;
- decrypt encrypted (6) keys to codes in the subscriber's mobile station.

15

14. Method as claimed in patent claim 13,

characterized in, to:

- encrypt (ECM) information (P) about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used;
- transmit said encrypted information about how said symmetric key to a code shall be used on said first control data channel.

25

15. Method as claimed in patent claim 13 or 14,

characterized in, to:

- encrypt (EMM) entitlement information (E) by the first encryption key in the fixed network;
- transmit encrypted entitlement information from the fixed network on a second control data channel on said broadcast carrier;
- decrypt (EMM) said encrypted entitlement information in the subscriber's mobile station.

30

16. Method as claimed in patent claim 15,

characterized in, to:

- encrypt (EMM) said first encryption key by a second encryption key (IK);

- transmit said encrypted first encryption key from the fixed network on a third control data channel on said broadcast carrier;
- decrypt (EMM) said first encrypted encryption key in the 5 subscriber's mobile station.

17. Method as claimed in patent claims 15 and 16,
characterized in, to:

- transmit from the fixed network address information (UA) 10 about the mobile stations of receiving subscribers.

18. Method as claimed in patent claim 16 or 17,
characterized in, to:

- store (9) said information about how said symmetric key 15 to a code shall be used, and said entitlement information in the subscriber's mobile station.

19. Method as claimed in patent claim 18,
characterized in, to:

- store said key to a code in the subscriber's mobile 20 station.

20. Method as claimed in patent claim 19,
characterized in, to:

- store said first encryption key in the subscriber's 25 mobile station.

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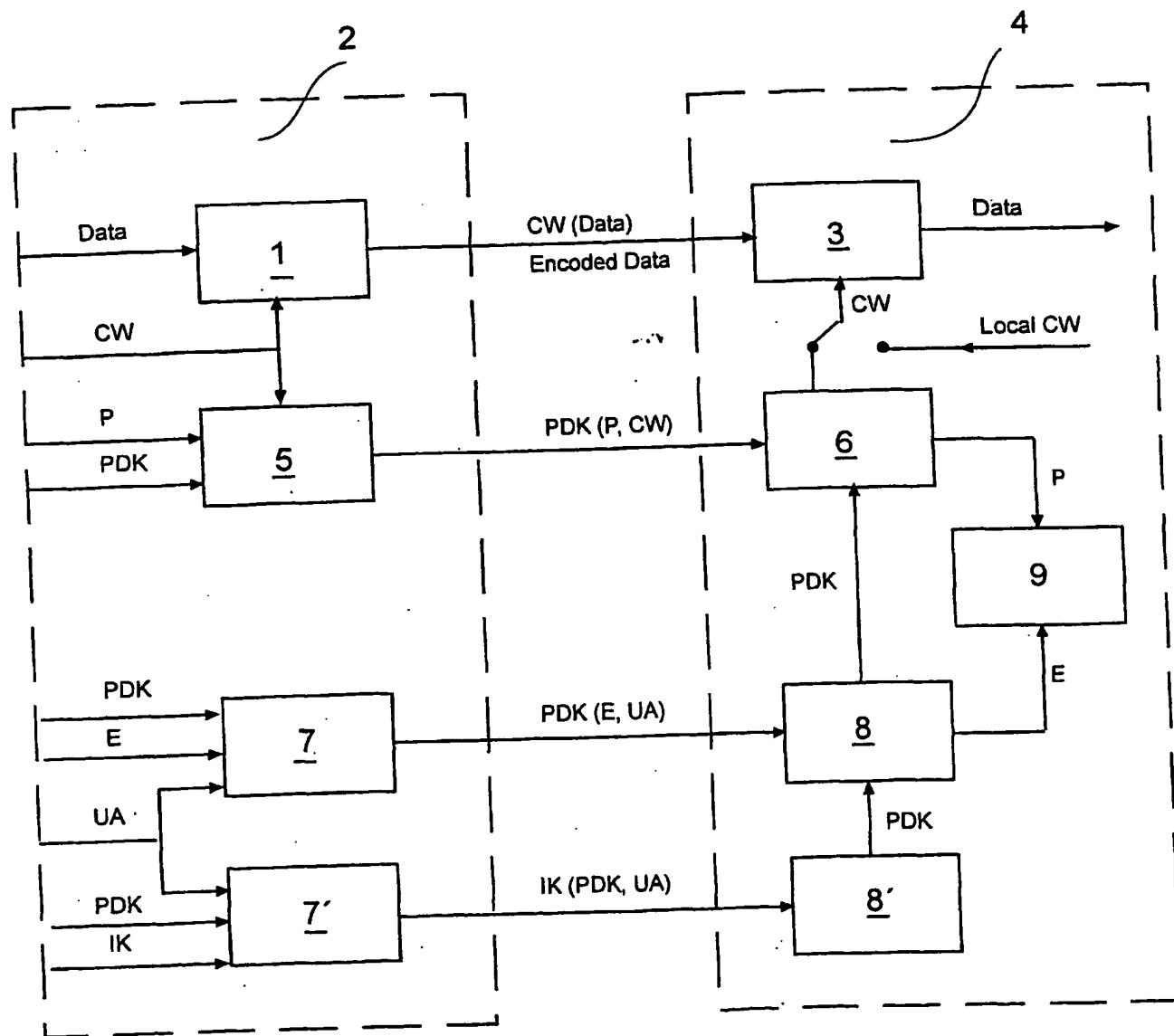


Figure 1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 01/00873

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: H04Q 7/38, H04L 9/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: H04Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 July 2001

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20 -07- 2001

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/SE 01/00873

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A	WO 9957927 A1 (ERICSSON, INC.), 11 November 1999 (11.11.99), abstract	1-20

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

02/07/01

International application No.
PCT/SE 01/00873

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